

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

DOUGLAS KRUSCHEN

Plaintiff(s),

v.

FMA ALLIANCE LTD

Defendant(s).

CASE NO:  
2:13-cv-07504-PSG-MRW

STANDING ORDER REGARDING  
NEWLY ASSIGNED CASES

**READ THIS ORDER CAREFULLY. IT CONTROLS THIS CASE.**

This action has been assigned to the calendar of Judge Philip S. Gutierrez.

The responsibility for the progress of litigation in the Federal Courts falls not only upon the attorneys in the action, but upon the Court as well. "To secure the just, speedy, and inexpensive determination of every action," Fed. R. Civ. P. 1, all counsel are hereby ordered to familiarize themselves with the Fed. R. Civ. P. , particularly Fed. R. Civ. P. 16, 26, the Local Rules of the Central District of

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1 California, this Court's Order for Jury Trial, and this Court's Order for Court  
2 Trial.<sup>1</sup>  
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4 **UNLESS OTHERWISE ORDERED BY THE COURT, THE FOLLOWING**  
5 **RULES SHALL APPLY:**

6       1. **Service of the Complaint.** The Plaintiff(s) shall promptly serve the  
7 Complaint in accordance with Fed. R. Civ. P. 4 and file the proofs of service  
8 pursuant to Local Rule. Any Defendant(s) not timely served shall be dismissed  
9 from the action without prejudice. Any "DOE" or fictitiously–named Defendant(s)  
10 who is not identified and served within 120 days after the case is filed shall be  
11 dismissed pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 4(m).

12       2. **Removed Actions.** Any answers filed in state court must be refiled  
13 in this Court as a supplement to the petition. Any pending motions must be re–  
14 noticed in accordance with Local Rule. If an action is removed to this Court that  
15 contains a form pleading, i.e., a pleading in which boxes are checked, the party or  
16 parties utilizing the form pleading must file an appropriate pleading with this Court  
17 within thirty (30) days of receipt of the Notice of Removal. The appropriate  
18 pleading referred to must comply with the requirements of Fed. R. Civ. P. 7, 7.1,  
19 8, 9, 10 and 11.

20       3. **Presence of Lead Counsel.** The attorney attending any proceeding  
21 before this Court, including all status and settlement conferences, must be the lead  
22 trial counsel.

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25       1Copies of the Local Rules are available on our website at  
26 "http://www.cacd.uscourts.gov" or they may be purchased from one of the  
27 following:  
28

Los Angeles Daily Journal  
915 East 1<sup>st</sup> Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

West Group  
610 Opperman Drive  
Post Office Box 64526  
St. Paul, MN 55164–0526

Metropolitan News  
210 South Spring Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

1       4. **Discovery**. All discovery matters have been referred to a United

2       States Magistrate Judge to hear all discovery disputes. (The Magistrate Judge's

3       initials follow the Judge's initials next to the case number.) All documents must

4       include the words "DISCOVERY MATTER" in the caption to ensure proper

5       routing. Counsel are directed to contact the Magistrate Judge's Courtroom Deputy

6       Clerk to schedule matters for hearing. Please do not deliver mandatory chambers

7       copies of these papers to this Court.

8       The decision of the Magistrate Judge shall be final, subject to modification

9       by the District court only where it has been shown that the Magistrate Judge's

10       order is clearly erroneous or contrary to law. Any party may file and serve a

11       motion for review and reconsideration before this Court. The moving party must

12       file and serve the motion within ten (10) days of service of a written ruling or

13       within ten (10) days of an oral ruling that the Magistrate Judge states will not be

14       followed by a written ruling. The motion must specify which portions of the text

15       are clearly erroneous or contrary to law, and the claim must be supported by points

16       and authorities. Counsel shall deliver a conformed copy of the moving papers and

17       responses to the Magistrate Judge's clerk at the time of filing.

18       5. **Motions – General Requirements**19       a. **Time for Filing and Hearing Motions**: Motions shall be filed in

20       accordance with Local Rules 6 and 7. This Court hears motions on Mondays,

21       beginning at 1:30 p.m. If the motion date selected is not available, the Court will

22       issue a minute order striking the motion. (Counsel are advised to check the

23       availability of a selected date *immediately* prior to filing the motion.) Opposition

24       or reply papers due on a holiday must be filed the preceding Friday—not the

25       following Tuesday—and must be hand-delivered or faxed to opposing counsel on

26       that Friday. Professional courtesy dictates that moving parties should, whenever

27       possible, avoid filing motions for which opposition papers will be due the Friday

28       preceding a holiday. Such a filing is likely to cause a requested continuance to be

1 granted.

2 Adherence to the timing requirements is mandatory for Chambers'  
3 preparation of motion matters.

4 b. Pre-filing Requirement: Counsel must comply with Local Rule 7-3,  
5 which requires counsel to engage in a pre-filing conference "to discuss  
6 thoroughly . . . the substance of the contemplated motion and any potential  
7 resolution." Counsel should discuss the issues to a sufficient degree that if a  
8 motion is still necessary, the briefing may be directed to those substantive issues  
9 requiring resolution by the Court. Counsel should resolve minor procedural or  
10 other non-substantive matters during the conference. The *pro per* status of one  
11 or more parties does not negate this requirement.

12 c. Length and Format of Motion Papers: Memoranda of points and  
13 authorities in support of or in opposition to motions shall not exceed 25 pages.  
14 Replies shall not exceed 12 pages. Only in rare instances and for good cause  
15 shown will the Court grant an application to extend these page limitations.  
16 Pursuant to Local Rule, either a proportionally spaced or monospaced face may be  
17 used. A proportionally spaced face must be 14-point or larger, or as the Court may  
18 otherwise order. A monospaced face may not contain more than 10½ characters  
19 per inch. These typeface requirements apply to footnoted material.

20 d. Citations to Case Law: Citations to case law must identify not only the  
21 case cited, but the specific page referenced.

22 e. Citations to Other Sources: Statutory references should identify with  
23 specificity the sections and subsections referenced (e.g., Jurisdiction over this  
24 cause of action may appropriately be found in 47 U.S.C. § 33, which grants the  
25 district courts jurisdiction over all offenses of the Submarine Cable Act, whether  
26 the infraction occurred within the territorial waters of the United States or on  
27 board a vessel of the United States outside said waters). Statutory references that  
28 do not specifically indicate the appropriate section and subsection (e.g., Plaintiffs

1       allege conduct in violation of the Federal Electronic Communication Privacy Act,  
2       18 U.S.C. § 2511, et seq.) are to be avoided. Citations to treatises, manuals, and  
3       other materials should include the volume, section, and pages being referenced.

4           f. Oral Argument: If the Court deems a matter appropriate for decision  
5       without oral argument, the Court will notify the parties in advance.

6           **6. Specific Motion Requirements**

7           a. Motions Pursuant to Rule 12: Many motions to dismiss or to strike can  
8       be avoided if the parties confer in good faith (as required under Local Rule 7-3),  
9       especially for perceived defects in a complaint, answer, or counterclaim that could  
10      be corrected by amendment. *See Chang v. Chen*, 80 F.3d 1293, 1296 (9th Cir.  
11      1996) (where a motion to dismiss is granted, a district court should provide leave  
12      to amend unless it is clear that the complaint could not be saved by any  
13      amendment). Moreover, a party has the right to amend the complaint once as a  
14      matter of course within twenty-one (21) days of serving it or "if the pleading is  
15      one to which a responsive pleading is required, 21 days after service of a  
16      responsive pleading or 21 days after service of a motion under Rule 12(b), (e), or  
17      (f), whichever is greater." Fed. R. Civ. P. 15(a)(1). Even after a complaint has  
18      been amended or the time for amending it as a matter of course has run, the  
19      Federal Rules provide that leave to amend should be "freely given when justice so  
20      requires." Fed. R. Civ. P. 15(a). The Ninth Circuit requires that this policy  
21      favoring amendment be applied with "extreme liberality." *Morongo Band of*  
22      *Mission Indians v. Rose*, 893 F.2d 1074, 1079 (9th Cir. 1990).

23           These principles require that plaintiff's counsel carefully evaluate  
24       defendant's contentions as to the deficiencies in the complaint. In most instances  
25       the moving party should agree to any amendment that would cure the defect.

26           b. Motions to Amend: In addition to the requirements of Local Rule 15-1,  
27       all motions to amend pleadings shall: (1) state the effect of the amendment; (2) be  
28       serially numbered to differentiate the amendment from previous amendments; and

(3) state the page and line number(s) and wording of any proposed change or addition of material.

The parties shall deliver to Chambers a "redlined" version of the proposed amended pleading indicating all additions and deletions of material.

c. Summary Judgment Motions: Parties need not wait until the motion cutoff to bring motions for summary judgment or partial summary judgment. Moreover, the court expects that the party moving for summary judgment will strictly observe the timing requirements of the Local Rules and this Standing Order. A motion under Rule 56 must be filed at least forty-nine (49) days prior to the date on which the motion is noticed for hearing. The opposition is due not later than twenty-one (21) days before the date designated for the hearing of the motion, and the reply not later than fourteen (14) days before the date designated for the hearing of the motion. Because summary judgment motions are fact-dependent, parties should prepare papers in a fashion that will assist the court in absorbing the mass of facts (*e.g.*, generous use of tabs, tables of contents, headings, indices, etc.). The parties are to comply precisely with Local Rule 56-1 through 56-4.

No party may file more than one motion pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 56, regardless of whether such motion is denominated as a motion for summary judgment or summary adjudication, without leave from the Court.

1. Statement of Undisputed Facts and Statement of Genuine Issues:

The separate statement of undisputed facts shall be prepared in a two-column format. The left hand column sets forth the allegedly undisputed fact. The right hand column sets forth the evidence that supports the factual statement. The factual statements should be set forth in sequentially numbered paragraphs. Each paragraph should contain a narrowly focused statement of fact. Each numbered paragraph should address a single subject as concisely as possible.

The opposing party's statement of genuine issues must be in two columns

1 and track the movant's separate statement exactly as prepared. The left hand  
2 column must restate the allegedly undisputed fact, and the right hand column must  
3 state either that it is undisputed or disputed. The opposing party may dispute all  
4 or only a portion of the statement, but if disputing only a portion, it must clearly  
5 indicate what part is being disputed, followed by the opposing party's evidence  
6 controverting the fact. The court will not wade through a document to determine  
7 whether a fact really is in dispute. To demonstrate that a fact is disputed, the  
8 opposing party must briefly state why it disputes the moving party's asserted fact,  
9 cite to the relevant exhibit or other piece of evidence, and describe what it is in  
10 that exhibit or evidence that refutes the asserted fact. No legal argument should be  
11 set forth in this document.

12 The opposing party may submit additional material facts that bear on or  
13 relate to the issues raised by the movant, which shall follow the format described  
14 above for the moving party's separate statement. These additional facts shall  
15 continue in sequentially numbered paragraphs and shall set forth in the right hand  
16 column the evidence that supports that statement.

17 2. Supporting Evidence: No party shall submit evidence other than  
18 the specific items of evidence or testimony necessary to support or controvert a  
19 proposed statement of undisputed fact. For example, entire deposition transcripts,  
20 entire sets of interrogatory responses, and documents that do not specifically  
21 support or controvert material in the separate statement shall not be submitted in  
22 support of opposition to a motion for summary judgment. The court will not  
23 consider such material.

24 Evidence submitted in support of or in opposition to a motion should be  
25 submitted either by way of stipulation or as exhibits to declarations sufficient to  
26 authenticate the proffered evidence, and should not be attached to the  
27 memorandum of points and authorities. The court will accept counsel's  
28 authentication of deposition transcripts, written discovery responses and the

1 receipt of documents in discovery if the fact that the document was in the  
2 opponent's possession is of independent significance. Documentary evidence as  
3 to which there is no stipulation regarding foundation must be accompanied by the  
4 testimony, either by declaration or properly authenticated deposition transcript, of  
5 a witness who can establish authenticity.

6       3.     Objections to Evidence: If a party disputes a fact based in whole or  
7 in part on an evidentiary objection, the ground of the objection, as indicated  
8 above, should be stated in a separate statement but not argued in that document.

9       7.     Proposed Orders. Each party filing or opposing a motion or seeking  
10 the determination of any matter shall serve and lodge a proposed order setting  
11 forth the relief or action sought and a brief statement of the rationale for the  
12 decision with appropriate citations.

13       8.     Mandatory Chambers Copies: Mandatory chambers copies of all  
14 filed motions, oppositions or notice of non–opposition, and replies must be  
15 delivered to Judge Gutierrez' chambers on the eighth floor not later than 12:00  
16 noon the following business day. For security reasons, mandatory chambers  
17 copies should be removed from envelopes or folders before placing them on the  
18 table.

19       9.     Telephonic Hearings. The Court does not permit appearances or  
20 arguments by way of telephone conference calls.

21       10.    Ex Parte Applications. The Court considers ex parte applications  
22 on the papers and does not usually set these matters for hearing. If a hearing is  
23 necessary, the parties will be notified. Ex parte applications are solely for  
24 extraordinary relief and should be used with discretion. Sanctions may be  
25 imposed for misuse of ex parte applications. *See Mission Power Engineering Co.*  
26       *v. Continental Casualty Co.*, 883 F. Supp. 488 (C.D. Cal. 1995).

27       Counsel's attention is directed to Local Rules. The moving party shall serve  
28 the opposing party by facsimile transmission and shall notify the opposition that

1 opposing papers must be filed not later than 3:00 p.m. on the first business day  
2 following such facsimile service. If counsel does not intend to oppose an ex parte  
3 application, he or she must inform the Courtroom Deputy Clerk at (213) 894-8899.

4 **11. TROs and Injunctions.** Parties seeking emergency or provisional  
5 relief shall comply with Rule 65 and Local Rule 65. The Court will not rule on  
6 any application for such relief for at least twenty-four hours after the party subject  
7 to the requested order has been served, unless service is excused. Such party may  
8 file opposing or responding papers in the interim.

9 **12. Continuances.** This Court has a strong interest in keeping scheduled  
10 dates certain. Changes in dates are disfavored. Trial dates set by the Court are  
11 firm and will rarely be changed. Therefore, a stipulation to continue the date of  
12 any matter before this Court **must** be supported by a sufficient basis that  
13 demonstrates good cause why the change in the date is essential. Without such  
14 compelling factual support, stipulations continuing dates set by this Court will not  
15 be approved. Counsel requesting a continuance must lodge a proposed stipulation  
16 and order including a **detailed** declaration of the grounds for the requested  
17 continuance or extension of time. Failure to comply with the Local Rules and this  
18 Order will result in rejection of the request without further notice to the parties.  
19 Proposed stipulations extending scheduling dates do not become effective unless  
20 and until this Court so orders. Counsel wishing to know whether a stipulation has  
21 been signed shall comply with the applicable Local Rule.

22 **13. Communications with Chambers.** Counsel shall not attempt to  
23 contact the Court or its staff by telephone or by any other ex parte means.  
24 Counsel may contact the Courtroom Deputy Clerk with **appropriate** inquiries only.  
25 Counsel shall not contact the Courtroom Deputy regarding status of ex parte  
26 application/ruling or stipulation/ruling. If counsel desires a conformed copy of  
27 any proposed order submitted to the Court, counsel shall provide an extra copy of  
28 the document, along with a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Counsel should list

1 their facsimile transmission numbers along with their telephone numbers on all  
2 papers to facilitate communication with the Courtroom Deputy.

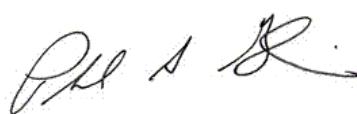
3       **14. Order Setting Scheduling Conference.** Pursuant to  
4 Fed. R. Civ. P. 16(b), the Court will issue an Order setting a Scheduling  
5 Conference as required by Fed. R. Civ. P. 26 and the Local Rules of this Court.  
6 Strict compliance with Fed. R. Civ. P. 16 and 26 is required.

7       **15. Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR).** This Court participates in  
8 the Court-Directed ADR Program. If counsel have received a Notice to Parties of  
9 Court-Directed ADR Program (ADR-08), the case will be presumptively referred  
10 to the Court Mediation Panel or to private mediation at the time of the initial  
11 scheduling conference. *See* General Order 11-10, §5.1. Counsel should include  
12 their shared or separate views regarding a preference for the Court Mediation  
13 Panel or private mediation, and when the mediation should occur, in the written  
14 report required by Fed.R.Civ.P. 26(f) and Civil L.R. 26-1. This Court generally  
15 does not refer settlement conferences to magistrate judges. For information about  
16 the Court's ADR Program, the Mediation Panel, and mediator profiles, visit the  
17 "ADR" page of the Court website.

18       **16. Notice of this Order.** Counsel for plaintiff or plaintiff (if appearing  
19 on his or her own behalf) shall immediately serve this Order on all parties,  
20 including any new parties to the action. If this case came to the Court by a  
21 Petition for Removal, the removing defendant(s) shall serve this Order on all other  
22 parties.

23       **IT IS SO ORDERED.**

24  
25       DATED: October 21, 2013



26  
27       Philip S. Gutierrez  
28       United States District Judge